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Mom charged over alleged incest with long-lost son

U.S. The Detroit-area woman accused of having sex with her biological son after finding him through the Internet has been charged.

Aimee Louise Sword, 35, is making headline news south of the border for finding the son she gave up for adoption 10 years earlier and allegedly having a romantic relationship with the teen.

Sword is facing a charge of third-degree criminal sexual conduct. Her lawyer told ABC News the accusations have been difficult for her.

METRO VANCOUVER

Escape Hunter fends off grizzly bear

PHOTO COURTESY RORY CHAPPLE

Veteran hunter Rory Chapple, seen here with an earlier kill in this undated photo, fought off a charging grizzly bear using a bow and arrow in the northern B.C. wilderness last week. The wounded bear ran away. Story, page 3.

Surfers to battle it out in Tofino classic

Country's first pro competition to lure more than 100 wave-riders

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

Canada's first-ever professional surfing competition hits the waters off Vancouver Island next month.

The Cold Water Classic Canada, which runs Oct. 25 to 31, will bring more than 100 professional surfers to Tofino, as well as spectators and about 50 media.

"It solidifies our tagline of being the Surfing Capital of Canada," said Lynda Kaye, a spokeswoman for Tourism Tofino.

"If (the water) is anything like I'm looking at right now — pro surfers are going to be happy," said Kaye, whose Tofino office overlooks the ocean.

PHOTO COURTESY JEREMY KORESKI

Professional surfer Noah Cohen, O'Neill's ambassador for next month's Cold Water Classic, surfs in his hometown of Tofino.

"(The surf) is not steamer-lane, Santa Cruz big, it's not huge, rip-curl, Hawaii big, but there are surfers in our water every day of the year."

Temperatures, she added, are consistent with other surfing places in the Pacific Northwest at about 10 C.

The contest is the first professional surfing competition sponsored by the Association of Surfing Professionals to be held in Canadian waters.

It is the fourth in a series of five events held in balmy locales like the coasts of Scotland and Tasmania, and it is part of a World Qualifying Series that carries a total purse of $145,000.

"We expect the town to be a hubbub of activity," said Kaye, adding the Olympic torch relay visits Tofino on Nov. 1, the day after the competition ends.

"For a town that basically takes a break after the summer, we're going to be on fire into the first part of fall."

Feds issue priority list for flu shots

VACCINATION Pregnant women, health workers, children, people living in remote places and adults with chronic conditions should be first to roll up their sleeves for a swine-flu shot when it's ready, the country's top doctor said yesterday.

Dr. David Butler-Jones, Canada's chief public health officer, said those groups are the most vulnerable to the H1N1 virus.

"Keeping in mind that we've ordered enough vaccine for every Canadian that needs and wants to be immunized, our basic approach is to ensure that those that need it most get it first," he said.

The Public Health Agency of Canada, which released its priority list for flu shots yesterday, recommends that everyone get the vaccine, especially police and firefighters and poultry and swine workers.

Vaccinations are expected to start in November. That's weeks behind the United States, which is aiming to start inoculations in October, and Europe, which expects vaccinations to start this month.

An article by American researchers last week in the journal Science warned the virus could peak in mid-October. However, Butler-Jones has said vaccinations could begin sooner if the virus surges before the flu shots are ready and officials are convinced the vaccine is safe.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 7

News on the Move

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Relating pg 12

Private affairs in public eye

Celebrity Buzz pg 25

Jude's good, bad news

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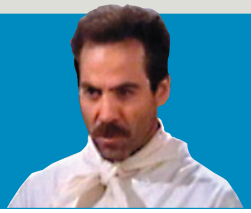

Service with a smile

The actor who played Seinfeld's Soup Nazi will be in New Westminster on Sept. 26 to help two local charities. Larry Thomas, left, will be serving soup at Greens and Beans Deli Café from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., before heading to the Royal City Humane Society to emcee the organization's annual variety show. METRO VANCOUVER

2009 Festival of Media Awards
METRO INTERNATIONAL
NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

News in brief

ELECTRICITY Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced millions of dollars in funding yesterday for a long-awaited electricity line in northern British Columbia that has the mining industry dreaming of massive growth in the region.

DISABILITY The Children's Ministry is dropping a $5-million intensive program for 70 autistic children to offer more money to 800 kids who receive autism funding from the province. In April, families with autistic children under age six will receive $22,000 a year, up from the current $20,000.

BRIDGE TOLL City councillors in Richmond First are warning commuters that TransLink may put a toll on the Knight Street Bridge as part of a revenue-generating plan called "road pricing." Coun. Bill McNulty said the toll could change traffic patterns. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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What's online today.

Video Afghanistan tops the agenda as Stephen Harper meets with Barack Obama at the White House at **metronews.ca/canada**

Lotteries

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Extra	21, 33, 72, 87

These results are not official.

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Hunter escapes bear attack

Man was forced to stab mother grizzly bear with arrow

KRISTEN THOMPSON
kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

A northern British Columbia man fought off a charging grizzly bear by stabbing the animal in the neck with an arrow.

Fort St. John native Rory Chapple was hunting in the Kechika River area near the Yukon border when he was attacked on Sept. 8.

"I left camp … and all of a sudden behind me I heard a huffing sound," Chapple told Metro Vancouver yesterday.

He said he turned around to see a sow, trailed by three cubs, coming full tilt toward him.

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Search for bear

- The hunting party couldn't find the sow after the attack, but did come across the arrow.

"It takes a few seconds to realize what's going on and I started to holler at her and back-pedal as fast as I could. When I was doing that I hooked my heel and started to fall backwards."

Chapple said as the sow tried to jump on top of him he held his bow out as a shield, pulled an arrow out of his quiver and stabbed her in the throat.

"Her elbow squashed my head into the ground and she turned to run away with the arrow stuck in her neck."

Chapple said he's fine except for a sore back and some residual jitters.

"In hindsight, I shouldn't have been alone and definitely should have been packing pepper spray."

PHOTO COURTESY RORY CHAPPLE

Hunter Rory Chapple of Fort St. John fought off a grizzly bear while hunting near the Kechika River.

New site gives city information to the masses

JEFF HODSON
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DATA Vancouver has quietly launched a humble website that could change the way citizens interact with their civic government.

Vancouver's Open Data Catalogue contains 18 datasets (with more to come) on subjects ranging from the location of city drinking fountains to garbage-collection schedules.

"It was very exciting to click on the link today," said Coun. Andrea Reimer, who proposed the open-data motion earlier this year.

"It's a modest beginning … but this is like turning 6,000 employees into 600,000 employees. Potentially, the whole city can participate more effectively in discussions, decisions and advising."

Go online

- To view Vancouver's open portal, go online to data.vancouver.ca.

Anyone can now download city data in a useable form, facilitating the creation of new services and ideas on ways to improve the city.

For individual citizens, the open-data portal will not be immediately life-changing — unless people are interested in "finding out where all the drinking fountains are," Reimer quipped.

However, she added, the open data will make things easier for researchers and advocacy groups to access, which would hopefully lead to recommendations from those groups and better public policy.

It's hot news: VANOC unveils 2010 cauldron

VANCOUVER 2010 **Games**

SPORT Organizers of the 2010 Vancouver Games yesterday unveiled a portable stage and a cauldron that will be lit in community celebrations in cities and towns during the Olympic torch relay.

Beginning in Victoria on Oct. 30, the torch will visit 1,030 communities during its 106-day journey.

There will be 200 "community celebrations" that will include drummers and acrobats, musicians, artists, and entertainers.

A torchbearer, chosen from each community, will light the community cauldron — a white, curved cauldron about 1.3-metres tall designed to complement the Olympic torch. The relay actually begins Oct. 22, when the Olympic Flame will be lit by the sun's rays in Olympia, Greece. It will be paraded through Greece and will be flown to Canada on a Canadian Forces aircraft.

JEFF HODSON/ METRO VANCOUVER

VANOC's community cauldron will be lit in 200 celebrations across the country.

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Country music awards draw big TV numbers
The 2009 Canadian Country Music Association Awards, held in Vancouver last Sunday, drew a record 60 per cent increase in viewership on CBC TV. The broadcast averaged 748,000 viewers for the evening, with ratings peaking at slightly more than one million. METRO VANCOUVER

Film aficionados aTwitter over VIFF's dream job

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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APPLICATIONS Film buffs and culture junkies are being offered the chance to cover premieres, after-parties and gala events for the upcoming Vancouver International Film Festival.

Applications are being accepted until Sept. 25 for the Stella Artois Légère Insider, who will give fans an insider's perspective on VIFF-related events via Twitter postings.

The paid position starts Sept. 29 and runs through to Oct. 20, said Martin Archambault, a spokesperson for Stella Artois, who added that the program was launched last week for the Toronto International Film Festival.

"It really gives a genuine side to (the festival)," Archambault said. "It's great for everyone who doesn't have access to all those special (events). Because of Twitter they feel they're part of it at the same time."

Archambault said the Vancouver candidate won't have to take time off work and their expenses will be covered.

"We have to wait until we pick the winner to build the schedule because if the person works from nine to five, we can adapt the schedule. Most of the events are at night."

More info
- For more information visit www.clubstellaartois.com.

Senior B.C. officers suing RCMP

Two senior RCMP officers in B.C. are suing the force, alleging racial discrimination following a stint in Afghanistan, where they allege officers were divided into groups based on their race.

Sgt. Derrick Ross, an acting staff sergeant currently with the RCMP's Surrey detachment, said upon his arrival at Camp Nathan Smith in Kandahar city, it became evident there were serious issues with the work environment.

Not seeking specific damages
- Blain and Ross are not asking for a specific amount but are seeking aggravated and special damages if their claim is successful.
- The RCMP has not yet filed an official response to the claims.

Ross and a second officer, Cpl. Greg Blain, were part of a team sent to Afghanistan to train the Afghan National Police. In his statement, Ross said it soon became apparent that officers had been divided according to race.

All the members of one team, except for one officer, were Caucasian, while a second group were members with diverse ethnic backgrounds. Ross, a Métis, along with First Nations member Blain, were part of what was called Team B.

"Team A treated Team B as inferior, excluded them from activities and targeted them for ill treatment," said Ross's statement filed in B.C. Supreme Court.

In 2007, a Muslim cadet in the RCMP sued and was awarded $500,000 in damages after he brought the RCMP before the Human Rights Tribunal claiming racial discrimination.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Police at a loss for suspects in shooting

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CRIME Police in West Vancouver say they still have no suspects in connection to a shooting that sent two men to hospital in grave condition.

Cpl. Fred Harding said yesterday the men are expected to recover and police are "actively investigating" the shooting.

"The West Vancouver police are confident that the shooting was not in any way random," Harding said.

Police were called to Keith Road near 3rd Street around 4:40 Tuesday afternoon, where they found two men shot on the road.

The victims, a 27-year-old man and an 18-year-old man, have not been identified.

"The RCMP provided valuable resources to assist in the search for suspects," Harding said.

"A helicopter conducted a grid search, dogs were used to track through dense terrain, officers searched on foot and held containment."

Anyone with information is asked to call police.

"While witnesses have come forward, every detail is vital."

JONATHAN HOWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

West Vancouver officers guard the scene of a double shooting on Tuesday evening.

"A helicopter conducted a grid search, dogs were used to track through dense terrain, officers searched on foot."
Cpl. Fred Harding

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News in brief

SKYTRAIN There were long lineups on SkyTrain yesterday afternoon as a technical problem near Broadway Station caused extended stops at stations.

PARK TAX The Vancouver Park Board has passed a motion to campaign for an exemption from the pending HST. Commissioner Loretta Woodcock warned the 12 per cent tax would discourage low-income earners from participating in recreational activities.

FRENCH Canadian Parents for French (CPF) have taken umbrage with the Canadian Taxpayers Federation for saying a $7.7-million commitment to 2010 Olympic bilingualism was just a "vote-buying exercise."

ACCIDENT No one was injured when a semi truck lost control on 52 Avenue in Langley, crossing oncoming traffic and going into a ditch. The accident on Tuesday evening also downed power lines.

VIOLENCE Anti-violence groups are slamming provincial budget cuts that they say put Canadian women and children in danger. The government cut $1.2 million from transition houses, counselling and outreach programs for women and children who have been victims of sexual and domestic violence. The Ending Violence Association of B.C. said the programs were in the middle of three-year funding agreements similar to arts groups that had their promised funding returned.

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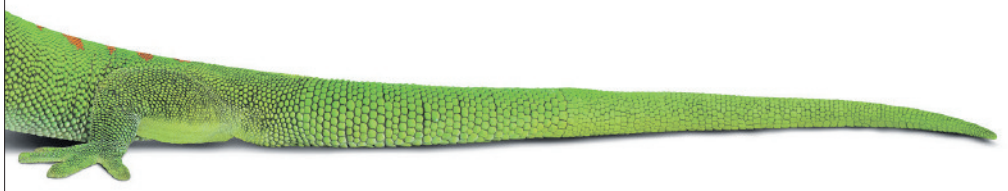

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B.C. opens trade office in India

B.C. opened a new overseas trade office in Bangalore, the "Silicon Valley" of India. While promoting B.C. as a destination for investment and trade, the office will help advance partnerships in research and development. METRO VANCOUVER

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stanley Hayer, one of the pioneers of ski cross.

Ski cross primed for spotlight

Performing on winter sports' biggest stage — the 2010 Vancouver Olympics — is essential to helping ski cross grow and develop, one of the sport's pioneers said.

Stanley Hayer said the Games will show ski cross is not a dangerous sport.

"If we can get enough people here to watch it and enough coverage on TV, so people realize ... that it's not every race somebody breaks their leg and it's safe and it's smart ... it could be huge."

Chris Del Bosco, the Canadian who finished second in last year's World Cup points standings, said a successful Olympics could bring a sport that has lived on the fringe into the mainstream.

"We've been trying for years to get it on the international radar," Del Bosco said during a news conference at Cypress Mountain to announce Westminster Savings as a Canadian team sponsor.

"This is how you do it. Now it's our time to shine. People that see it, love it.

"As long as we can showcase it, we can grow the sport."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Fake techies on the loose

CPU Langley police issued a warning yesterday about fake computer technicians.

Officers were called to investigate a computer theft on Sept. 9 involving two men who walked into a business and told an employee they were from "head office." The thieves, one who wore a tool belt and ID tag clipped to his shirt, said they were given a contract to work on a computer tower.

The employee found this suspicious and reported it to a manager. By the time they returned, the fake techies had taken off with the computer tower.

Police said the crime is worrisome because thieves could use this technique to install card readers into debit machines or steal bank information. METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

E. COLI Thirteen people — including 10 children and one baby — have come down with E. coli after visiting the PNE's petting zoo. The bacterial infection can be deadly and three of those infected have been hospitalized.

COURTHOUSE ARREST A woman, 42, was arrested outside the Penticton courthouse after showing up for her young offender son's court appearance with what police say was a large amount of illegal drugs and $10,000 in cash.

EVASION A 25-year-old man has been arrested after jumping out of a moving truck and trying to run from police, after an attempted robbery at a Chilliwack gas station.

OLYMPICS The mayor of Burnaby is condemning VANOC's plan to put departure hubs in high density residential areas, news1130.com reports. Derek Corrigan said the hubs, where people will be bussed to Olympic venues, will be noisy and cause traffic chaos.

MISSING Abbotsford police are asking for the public's help finding a missing man who's in a wheelchair. Jean Guy Potvin, 41, who is a paraplegic, was last seen at Cultus Lake campground on Sept. 11 in a red Toyota Camry.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Taillon still in ADQ leadership race
Gilles Taillon, Mario Dumont's former right-hand man, is staying in the race to become the new Action democratique du Quebec leader despite having cancer. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

NORTEL NETWORKS

Ottawa won't block wireless sale

Industry Minister Tony Clement says Ottawa won't block the US$1.13-billion sale of Nortel Networks' wireless division to Sweden's Ericsson. The minister says there is no basis for a federal review of the deal on national security grounds. As well, the deal falls under the value threshold of Investment Canada review guidelines. In addition, Ericsson is planning to offer jobs to 800 Nortel workers in Canada. THE CANADIAN PRESS

No purchases of toxin-free vaccine

HEALTH Canada will not be purchasing any thimerosal-free pandemic vaccine — a decision that concerns some pregnant women and young mothers and worries some officials who want to see pregnant women and young children vaccinated.

Thimerosal is a preservative used to prevent contamination in multi-dose vials of vaccine. Though it's an organic mercury compound, experts believe it is safe.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Regina **Troop on parade**

ROY FLEEC/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Members of Troop 17, the first all female RCMP cadets, march at RCMP depot to celebrate 35 years of female uniformed members in the RCMP yesterday, in Regina, Sask. The troop started training on Sept. 16, 1974 and graduated on March 3, 1975.

News in brief

SPENDING It's not small-town cheap when you add it all up. A federal government agency set up to help farmers spent $11,320 for golf balls and tees over the last two years. The same agency, Farm Credit Canada, doled out another $34,255 for 454 tickets to "sporting events." Despite the golfing and cheering, there was still enough time for Tim Hortons — to the tune of $20,500 dished out for refreshments. The outlays for entertainment and pick-me-ups were only a fraction of millions worth of detailed spending by all departments and agencies disclosed this week.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

PM, Obama talk war, trade

Leaders meet in Washington, D.C.

The United States has not yet settled on the best strategy for the ongoing war in Afghanistan, and won't commit to sending more troops until it does, President Barack Obama said yesterday after meeting with Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

The two leaders met in the Oval Office for more than an hour, touching on a variety of issues that included trade irritants, energy and the Afghan mission, in which Canada is a major partner.

But it was Obama's stark admission about the U.S. role in Afghanistan — the original goal of the mission is all but a distant memory, thanks in part to the lack of a clear course of action, he indicated — that commanded the most attention.

"We have lacked as clear of a strategy and a mission as is necessary in order to meet our overriding objective, which is to dismantle and disrupt and destroy al-Qaida," Obama said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Iggy on trade

- Liberal Leader Micheal Ignatieff slammed the Harper visit: "They don't have a foreign policy, and they haven't put the investments into this relationship to get serious , and we look like boy scouts down there."

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<SPECIAL OFFER CODE 810>

Greenpeace protest at oilsands mine ends after 31 hours

A Greenpeace protest by about two dozen activists at the massive Shell oilsands mine in northern Alberta has ended peacefully after 31 hours with an agreement that there will be no charges and no arrests. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Chiefs outraged over body bags delivery

NATIVE AFFAIRS Aboriginal leaders in Manitoba say they are horrified and want an explanation as to why some of the reserves hardest hit by swine flu in the spring have just received dozens of body bags from Health Canada.

Chiefs say the body bags were sent to a cluster of remote northern reserves where dozens of patients were airlifted to hospital in the spring. "If this is preparedness, they're sending the wrong message to our communities. Who would do such a thing?" Grand Chief David Harper said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Honouring the fallen **A kiss for her hero**

JACQUES BOISSINOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Widow Annie Roberge blows a kiss as she kneels with her four-year-old son Charles, centre, her six-year-old daughter Alexandra, behind, and an unidentified relative as a hearse carrying her husband, Maj. Yannick Pepin, leaves his funeral service at CFB Valcartier yesterday. Pepin and Cpl. Jean-Francois Drouin were killed in Afghanistan on Sept.6 by a roadside bomb.

PETA confronts MPs in Commons dustup

Seal-hunt activists disrupt question period

Anti-seal-hunt activists took their protest to Parliament yesterday.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals — PETA — shouted down politicians in the House of Commons.

Other PETA protesters demonstrated in front of the Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C.

In Ottawa, three female protesters dressed in religious garb interrupted question period from their perch in the gallery.

The trio briefly waved signs reading The Seal Slaughter is a Bad Habit and chanted before security arrested them.

In Washington, three PETA protesters dressed in seal costumes stained with red paint were dragged off by police as they tried to stop traffic.

Their protest coincided with Prime Minister Stephen Harper's visit to the White House, where he was meeting with U.S. President Barack Obama.

A spokesperson for the U.S. Secret Service says the women are facing charges of mischief, unlawful assembly and resisting arrest.

The seal hunt is almost universally supported by Canada's politicians.

PETA has been among the most vocal opponents calling for a halt to the practice.

In recent months, the European Union and the United States banned Canadian-made seal products.

However, the federal government remains firmly behind the hunt and has said it will appeal the EU decision to the World Trade Organization.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ex-MP faces DUI charge

POLITICS Former Conservative MP Rahim Jaffer is facing charges of drunk driving and cocaine possession.

Jaffer, husband of Tory MP Helena Guergis, was arrested in the wee hours of Friday morning by Ontario Provincial Police in the village of Palgrave, north of Toronto.

Jaffer has been charged with driving while over the legal blood-alcohol limit, and with possession of cocaine.

His licence has been suspended for 90 days and he is to appear in court in Orangeville, Ont., on Oct. 19.

Jaffer, 37, was MP for the riding of Edmonton-Strathcona from 1997 until a surprise defeat in last year's election.

He was born in Kampala, Uganda, and immigrated to Edmonton with his family as a boy to escape persecution under the iron-fist rule of Idi Amin.

He has recently worked for Green Power Generation Corp., which helps to bring alternative energy technologies to market.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Background

- Former Tory MP Rahim Jaffer was staying in Angus, Ont., in his wife Helena's riding of Simcoe-Grey, when his vehicle was pulled over.
- He was just 25 when he first arrived in Parliament as an MP.
- He was a fun-loving MP popular on the Ottawa party scene before romance blossomed with Helena Guergis. They were married last Oct. 15 — a day after the federal election.

Snakes alive! Manitoba housing complex infested
Garter snakes are infesting a government-run housing complex in rural Manitoba, CBC News Online reports. People living at the Inwood Manor Manitoba Housing apartments in Inwood say snakes have been slithering in through any crack in the building they can find. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Trudeau office raided

CRIME Thieves broke into Justin Trudeau's riding office and swiped a personal computer early yesterday.

The computer may contain political exchanges, but nothing sensitive about the party or its upcoming election platform, said the Liberal MP's spokesperson.

It was used "maybe for some speeches or some notes and stuff like that — definitely some parliamentary emails," said Louis-Alexandre Lanthier.

"But (there was) nothing sensitive, to my knowledge."

The thieves took nothing else from the store-front office, Lanthier added.

He said the computer doesn't contain any personal information about constituents in Trudeau's riding of Papineau.

Police are investigating.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alberta **All pumped up over a perfect pumpkin**

RANDY FIEDLER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Three-year-old Sianna Vennard hugs the small pumpkin she chose for her father at the Jungle Farm north of Innisfail, Alta., this week. She was part of a group of Sundre, Alta., children who took a wagon ride to the you-pick farm's pumpkin patch to choose their own pumpkins.

Tories to live it up in true-blue fashion

POLITICS Conservatives are preparing for a party — a celebration of past Tory majorities.

But it's not clear whether today's gala in Montreal, to celebrate Brian Mulroney's historic election win 25 years ago, could pave the way to future ones.

Officials in the Harper government are casting it as a show of unity.

The guest list includes more than 20 MPs from both the Reform and PC wings of the party, including ministers Peter MacKay and Jim Flaherty.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bye-bye to beds

Alberta cuts back acute care

VICTORIA HANDYSIDES
Metro Canada

Nearly 300 acute-care hospital beds will be removed over the next three years, Alberta announced yesterday.

The move is an effort to save cash and reserve space in case of a major swine flu outbreak. The bed closures will result in roughly $50 million in savings.

But Alberta Health Services said no layoffs are planned as it struggles with a $1-billion budget deficit.

"We've got people on waiting list for services and patients bunked three to a room or out in the hallways — those are the people that should be moving into those vacant beds," said Alberta Union of Provincial Employees president Doug Knight.

"It's like closing 300 acute care beds in Edmonton and Calgary."
Kevin Taft, Liberal critic

The new plan follows an announcement that 150 beds are to be closed at Alberta Hospital Edmonton, the province's largest mental-health facility.

Kevin Taft, Alberta Liberal critic for health and wellness, said the cuts to acute-care beds will have an impact equivalent to losing a major hospital.

"This is like closing the Misericordia Hospital, it's like closing 300 acute care beds in Edmonton and Calgary," Taft says.

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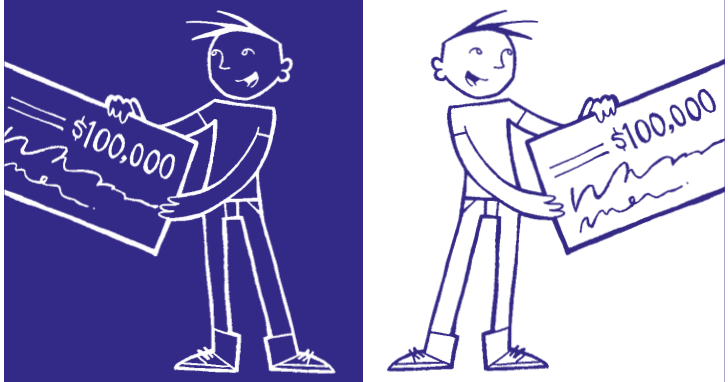

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Pair of Brazilian police sentenced to 500 years

Two former police officers were sentenced yesterday to roughly 500 years in prison each in the 2005 killing of 29 people outside Rio de Janeiro, a massacre that raised fears of death-squad activity in Brazil. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Guinness record reaches new heights

A towering Turk was officially crowned the world's tallest man yesterday after his Ukrainian rival dropped out of the running by refusing to be measured. Guinness World Records said that eight-feet-one Sultan Kosen, left, from the town of Mardin in eastern Turkey, is now officially the tallest man walking the planet. Although the previous record holder, Ukrainian Leonid Stadnyk, reportedly measured eight feet 5.5 inches, Guinness said he was stripped of his title when he declined to let anyone confirm his height. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Egypt won't follow Sudan law

TROUSERS Egypt's top Islamic authority has defended women's right to wear trousers in public following a high-profile court case in neighbouring Sudan.

Grand Mufti Ali Gomaa said in a public lecture Monday that trousers covering women's bodies are permitted, emphasizing they should be loose and not see-through. Gomaa's remarks were published yesterday in the Egyptian daily al-Shorouk as well as other newspapers. His answer was in response to a question from the audience.

Sudan caused a stir when it flogged 10 women for wearing trousers.

One, Lubna Hussein, contested her penalty and was let off with a fine for public indecency in a trial that garnered international attention.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Solid as a rock

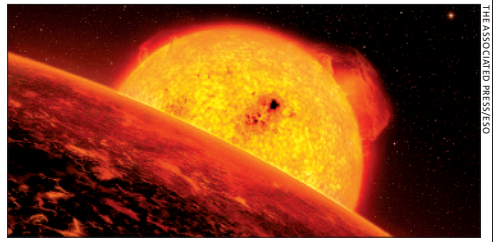
But newly discovered planet may be a little warm

Astronomers have finally found a place outside our solar system where there's a firm place to stand — if only it weren't so broiling hot.

As scientists search the skies for life elsewhere, they have found more than 300 planets outside our solar system. But they all have been gas balls or can't be proven to be solid. Now a team of European astronomers has confirmed the first rocky extrasolar planet.

Scientists have long figured that if life begins on a planet, it needs a solid surface to rest on, so finding one elsewhere is a big deal.

"We basically live on a rock ourselves," said co-discoverer Artie Hartzes, director of the Thuringer observatory in Germany. "It's as close to something like the Earth that we've found so far. It's just a little too close to its sun."



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ESO

This image provided by the European Southern Observatory shows an artist rendition of the first rocky extrasolar planet called Corot-7b.

So close that its surface temperature is more than 1,982 C, too toasty to sustain life. It circles its star in just 20 hours. By comparison, Mercury, the planet nearest our sun, completes its solar orbit in 88 days.

The planet is called Corot-7b. Now that another rocky planet has been found so close to its own star, it gives scientists more confidence that they'll find more Earth-like planets where the conditions could be more favourable to life.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Execution date set for D.C. sniper

U.S. A Virginia judge yesterday set a Nov. 10 execution date for John Allen Muhammad, mastermind of the 2002 sniper attacks in the Washington, D.C., area that left 10 dead.

The date, which falls on a Tuesday, was picked so courts would be open the day before in case they have to take up last-minute appeals, said Jonathan Sheldon, Muhammad's attorney.

Sheldon said Muhammad will appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court and ask Virginia Gov. Timothy M. Kaine for clemency.

Muhammad was sentenced to death for the slaying of Dean Meyers, one of 10 people shot to death during an autumn 2002 rampage that terrorized the District of Columbia area.

Muhammad and teenage accomplice Lee Boyd Malvo killed six people in Alabama and Louisiana before moving on to Maryland, the District of Columbia and Virginia, where Meyers was shot at a Manassas gas station.

Six others were wounded.

Malvo is serving life in prison for the shooting spree. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Israel, Hamas reject UN Gaza report

MIDDLE EAST Gazans who lost loved ones during Israel's winter offensive against Hamas militants said yesterday they're taking some solace from a UN report that accuses both sides of committing war crimes, but they're skeptical anyone will be brought to justice.

In Israel, the findings of the UN team sparked outrage and deepened a sense that the Jewish state is being treated unfairly by the international community.

Both deny claims

- Both Israel and Gaza's Hamas rulers rejected the UN team's allegations of war crimes during last winter's fighting.

While the UN investigation labelled Hamas rocket attacks on Israeli towns as war crimes, the bulk of the findings focused on Israeli actions during the three-week war. The report echoed findings in a string of human-rights reports released in recent months, but it could carry more weight, both because it was authored by a widely respected former war-crimes prosecutor, Richard Goldstone, and because, at least in theory, it opens the way to charges against Israel before the International Criminal Court.

Israel's government has begun a diplomatic offensive to block any attempt to bring its soldiers before the Netherlands-based court.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

IRELAND A double-decker bus and light-rail train collided yesterday on Dublin's central boulevard, injuring 21 people, emergency officials said. It was the worst accident to date involving Dublin's five-year-old tram system, called Luas — Gaelic for "speed." Luas trams share road space with buses, trucks and cars. Signal-controlled intersections and dedicated lanes for rail lines help to keep the trams from colliding with vehicles. Among the most seriously injured was the Luas conductor.

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Obama thinks criticism not based on race
The White House says U.S. President Barack Obama does not believe that the criticism of his policies are because of his race. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gunmen kill 10 at Mexico drug rehab

Massacre 2nd at a treatment centre this month

Gunmen burst into a drug treatment centre in the northern Mexican border city of Ciudad Juarez and shot to death 10 people, the second such mass killing this month.

Police say nine men and one woman were killed in the attack just before midnight Tuesday at the Anexo de Vida centre in Mexico's most violent city. Two people were seriously wounded.

A spokesman for Chihuahua state police said yesterday the identities of the gunmen and the motive for the attack have not yet been established.

But officials have said in the past that drug gangs may be using treatment centres to recruit dealers, or may be targeting them to eliminate rivals.

Most of the victims are believed to have been recovering addicts staying at the facility.

On Sept. 2, gunmen lined patients against a wall at another rehabilitation centre in Ciudad Juarez and then riddled them with bullets, killing 18.

Five men were killed at another rehabilitation centre in June, and in August 2008, gunmen barged into a pastor's sermon at a rehabilitation centre and opened fire, killing eight people. Authorities have not said if any of the attacks are related.

Ciudad Juarez has seen the worst of the nation's drug violence, with more than 1,300 deaths this year. The bloodshed has continued despite a buildup in troops since March.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bloodshed

- Surging gang violence has claimed 13,500 lives since President Felipe Calderon took office in 2006 and deployed extra soldiers across Mexico to fight cartels.

London **Eyes on the road, mate!**

SANG TAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A bus driver appears distracted as he drives past where models are displaying Agent Provocateur's new lingerie collection The New World Order outside a department store in London yesterday.

U.S. man given eight years in jail for 'sex tourism'

RAPE A wealthy Russian-American car exporter in Philadelphia has been sentenced to eight years in prison for procuring girls for sex from a St. Petersburg orphanage in Russia.

Andrew Mogilyansky, 39, received the maximum under terms of his "sex tourism" plea. Prosecutors say he raped one girl on her 14th birthday and a 13-year-old in her first sexual encounter.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Case

- The married man is also accused of helping finance an online child-sex ring and develop its website.

Internet child porn getting worse, says UN

EXPLOITATION The number of websites containing child pornography is increasing and more images show serious abuses, a UN expert said yesterday.

More than four million websites worldwide show images of children being sexually exploited, said the UN investigator on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, Najat M'jid Maalla.

"There is an increase in the number of sites recorded," she told the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva, citing research by the U.K.-industry group Internet Watch Foundation.

"The number of images showing serious exploitation quadrupled between 2003 and 2007, showing abject images of brutal rape, bondage, oral sex and other forms of debasement," Maalla said. She did not give precise figures.

Over 750,000 people are using child porn sites at any time, she added.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

EMBARGO Cuba will not make any political or policy concessions to improve relations with the U.S. — no matter how small, Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez said yesterday, snubbing Washington's suggestions that some reforms could lead to better ties.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment

Public life, private affairs

Relating

Steve Collins

metronews.ca/collins

We are warned again and again of the complications workplace romances can create, particularly when they end. But just where are typical working slobs, who spend most of their waking hours on the job, supposed to meet someone?

These affairs become exponentially more perilous when one is: a) married; and b) a public office holder.

It's called public life for a reason. Apart from car and real estate sales, few other jobs require pasting your name on billboards. A politician is sort of famous, and also sort of lonely. Hours are long.

The family is either on display (during campaigns) or left behind (the rest of the time). They've already paid the price in divided attention, in missed birthdays and countless other absences. And then gossip becomes news.

Northwest Territories Premier Floyd Roland is currently under investigation for an extramarital affair with Patricia Russell, a legislature clerk.

As usual, our homegrown sex scandal is lighter on the sex than is the norm in American politics.

To take only the most recent example from down south, California assemblyman Michael Duvall was caught by a live microphone boasting, in entirely too much detail, of his sexual adventures with a younger woman bearing no resemblance to his wife.

On the web

• For more views on relating, go to Love Bytes at metronews.ca/blogs

Even in the overheated U.S. media climate, however, there has to be a "so what?" to the story. Lest the press, opposition politicos and public be accused of simply nosing into someone's private life, the accused must be guilty of something more than getting some, even though the sex is the only reason anyone is interested.

"As usual, our homegrown sex scandal is lighter on the sex than is the norm in American politics."

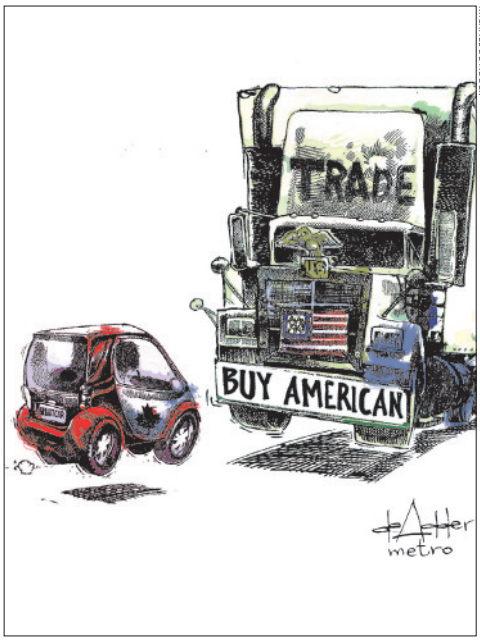
The "so what?" was easily furnished in this case: Duvall's alleged extracurricular playmate was also a lobbyist for an energy company with business before his committee. He also scored bonus points for hypocrisy, since he built a career as a conservative "family values" stalwart, an irony that's becoming so commonplace it's beginning to lose its shock.

Duvall has resigned and spared his wife the ritualistic stand-by-your-man press conference. In fact, he's not even admitting to the affair, just "inappropriate storytelling," preferring perhaps to be remembered as a liar rather than an adulterer.

Up north, the "so what?" is trickier to come by. The premier's accusers are alleging Russell passed confidential info to Roland. So far, the evidence is scant, but the allegation is sufficient to keep the inquiry going and remind voters regularly about his philandering.

Keep all this in mind the next time your own workplace hook-up becomes the subject of mortifying office gossip. It could always be worse.

Steve Collins offers his best guesses on relationships for Metro every two weeks.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Views

Helping women hold up half the sky

FourthWave

Canice Leung

metronews.ca/fourthwave

It's alternatingly a point of pride and embarrassment to be a Canadian woman. We're an egalitarian country, but our annual bilateral aid amounts to $1.5 billion, compared to the $1 billion and climbing we put into the conflict in Afghanistan each year (and at least $10 billion to date). We live in relative utopia, but we turn away from the world's women, who face oppressive poverty, discrimination and violence.

And what horrors we ignore. In Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn's new book, Half the Sky, we learn about women trafficked, drugged, beaten and killed in forced prostitution; women who die in childbirth or suffer stigmatizing, debilitating pregnancy-related injuries; women community organizers who are gang-raped for trying to help.

These stories aren't new, but they still fall on deaf ears. I'm guilty of that, rarely donating time or money. Feminists as a whole aren't much better — for all our protesting, most of it is Western-centric and relatively petty.

The book's title and the Chinese proverb it's derived from — "Women hold up half the sky" — cuts to the heart of our uncomfortable privilege.

The key is helping women elevate themselves through education and economic emancipation, they argue, so hands off:

More info

• Learn what you can do at halftheskymovement.org

• Give freely to grassroots charities, which hire savvy locals and can reach poor, rural areas that need help most.

• Fund microloans that target women, who are more likely than their husbands to invest family resources in education, health and income-generating businesses.

• Support education — Kristof and WuDunn cite evidence that educated girls have lower fertility rates (more kids exacerbate poverty), lower childbirth morbidity, are less likely to be abused, and have a greater chance at financial success.

These targeted initiatives have far-reaching effects, changing the way cultures see their women — not as burdens or inferiors, but as individuals that offer social purpose, independence and knowledge.

But why should I gush about this brilliant book? Read for yourself why feminism is still relevant, and why we need a new kind of foreign aid. I hope it embarrasses you enough to do something — it did for me. Camfed, which provides education to African girls, is now getting $10 US a month from me.

Canice Leung is a former editor of Ryerson University feminist magazine McClung's, copy editor at Metro, ardent feminist and loudmouth.

Worth mentioning

Swearing at boss no grounds for dismissal: Spanish court

A court in Barcelona says insulting your boss with one particularly foul obscenity is not grounds for dismissal, insisting the slight is common in arguments in Spain and not that big a deal.

The zinger in question translates as "son of a b---" and was used by a worker against his boss during a January 2008 money dispute in the northeastern city of Gerona. The worker, who also called his boss "crazy," was promptly fired.

The man lost a first court challenge, but won on appeal with the Superior Court of Justice of Catalonia in February.

"Without a doubt, both expressions are insulting," Judge Sara Maria Pose Vidal said in the ruling, a copy of which was obtained by the AP. But she noted that when the man called his boss crazy, he had been on his way out of the office and the boss did not hear it.

She also wrote that the "son of a b---" remark should be viewed in linguistic context.

Option

• The ruling — first reported this week by Spanish human resources website Carta de Personal — said the worker should either be reinstated in his job or receive 6,483 euros ($9,472) in compensation. It is not known which option the employer picked.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Belgian farmers say they're being milked dry due to low dairy prices
Belgian farmers sprayed three million litres of fresh milk onto their fields yesterday, furious over the low milk prices they say are bankrupting farmers. Milk farmers' groups said world prices had sunk so much they are having to sell milk at half their production costs. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Unemployment to linger: OECD

A 30-nation think tank is warning Canada may face a long period of high unemployment despite what it believes will be a major boost from Ottawa's stimulus package.

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development projects that the stimulus will reduce job losses stemming from the recession by between 0.7 per cent and 1.1 per cent of the workforce in 2010. That is roughly in the range of Finance Minister Jim Flaherty's claim in the January budget that stimulus would create or save about 190,000 jobs over two years.

"This is both because the size of the fiscal package was reasonably large (fifth largest in the OECD as a percentage of GDP) and because employment in Canada is relatively responsive to fiscal stimuli such as tax cuts and public expenditures," the Paris-based think-tank wrote.

But the report notes that even if the jobless rate has peaked at 8.7 per cent, "Canada's labour market typically takes a long time to recover from recessions." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Turkey Captured by pirates

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

Aysun Akbay, a third officer of the Turkish cargo vessel MV Horizon-1, seen with her dog in this recent file photo. Akbay was on the MV Horizon-1 when it was hijacked July 9 in the Gulf of Aden, near Somalia. Women like Akbay, 24, are slowly making inroads into the upper levels of seafaring.

Bankruptcies up one-third over '08, down since June

FINANCES The number of bankruptcies in Canada rose by more than a third in July compared with the year earlier, the latest figures show. But the number fell slightly from June.

Some observers say the data from the Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy, released yesterday, show that the tide of insolvency swamping Canadian households is easing, a sign that the worst of the recession may have passed.

Others said the slowdown was typical of mid-summer.

There were 10,726 personal and business bankruptcy filings in July, up from 7,908 a year ago, the monthly report showed. That's an increase of nearly 35.6 per cent. Bankruptcy filings were down 5.4 per cent in July from the 11,338 filings in the previous month. The overwhelming majority of the filings came from consumers, while the number of business bankruptcies fell from last year.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Business in brief

RECESSION Manufacturing sales rose 5.5 per cent in July to $41.4 billion, adding to the 2.2 per cent increase reported in June, Statistics Canada reports. The jump came with improved performances in the motor vehicle, auto parts and primary metals industries. Production in the motor vehicle industry rose 48.2 per cent in July to $3.3 billion. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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(1) No purchase necessary. Contest ends October 1, 2009. See buildabash.ca for Contest Rules.

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Bills corner not pressing charges

Buffalo Bills cornerback Leodis McKelvin is refusing to press charges against two 16-year-olds, who said they were the ones who spray-painted a message and an obscenity across the grass in front of the player's home shortly after the Bills' season-opening 25-24 loss at New England on Monday night. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

Cowboys eye record

The new Cowboys Stadium may set an attendance record Sunday. A Cowboys spokesman says the team's standing-room tickets have sold out. The Cowboys will say only that the standing-room total exceeds 20,000 fans. Combined with regular ticket sales in the 80,000-seat stadium, Dallas could challenge the NFL attendance record of 103,467, set Oct. 2, 2005, at Azteca Stadium in Mexico City. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

Glendale council backs NHL bid

COYOTES It appears more likely than ever that the Deserted Dogs will remain in Phoenix as Jim Balsillie's hopes of bringing the NHL team north to Hamilton continue to fade.

Balsilllie has offered $242.5 million (all figures U.S.) for the bankrupt Coyotes, the Canadian billionaire bumping his offer up by $50 million at last week's auction with the extra money meant to soothe the pain of breaking the lease with the City of Glendale, the Phoenix suburb that the Coyotes call home.

But that earmarked money has fallen on deaf ears. Glendale's city council voted down the cash and filed a document in bankruptcy court outlining its support for a competing bid from the NHL.

Council would not even allow Coyotes's owner Jerry Moyes to make an impassioned plea in support of the Balsillie bid on Tuesday. He got in only a few words before being asked to leave. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Decision

- Bankruptcy Judge Redfield T. Baum is expected to rule on whether the NHL or Jim Balsillie will become the Coyotes' owner sometime in the next two weeks.

Sports in brief

NFL Seahawks linebacker Leroy Hill is out until at least November. Coach Jim Mora said yesterday that further tests on Hill's groin showed more extensive damage than first believed, including a partially torn muscle. Hill may need surgery. Mora says Hill will be out at least until Seattle plays at Dallas on Nov. 1 following the bye week.

2016 OLYMPICS U.S. President Barack Obama says the whole country is rooting for his hometown of Chicago in its efforts to host the 2016 Olympics. Obama held an Olympic event at the White House yesterday, along with Olympic athletes and Chicago Mayor Richard Daley.

ROWING The 2010 Commonwealth Rowing Championships will be held July 31-Aug. 1 in Welland, Ont., Rowing Canada announced yesterday. It is run separately from the Commonwealth Games, which does not have rowing on its program. The Commonwealth Rowing Championships was last held in August 2006 at Scotland.

MLS Major League Soccer will take a two-week break during the group phase of the World Cup for the first time next summer. MLS announced yesterday that it will not play any games from June 11-25. The league also does not plan to schedule games on the days of the World Cup semifinal and final. METRO NEWS SERVICES

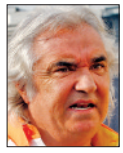
Renault won't fight allegations of fixing

Team principal, engineering director may face lifetime bans

ADAM HAY-NICHOLLS
Metro World News

Renault has announced it will "not dispute" the allegations of race fixing when it appears before the World Motor Sport Council next week, and that team principal Flavio Briatore and director of engineering Pat Symonds have left the company.

The two men stand accused of conspiring with former driver Nelson Piquet Jr. to crash on purpose at the 2008 Singapore Grand Prix, prompting a safety car period that helped promote teammate Fernando Alonso to victory.


Flavio Briatore

In August, angry at being fired from Renault, Piquet drew his actions in Singapore to the attention of the sport's governing body, the FIA.

Renault threatened to sue Piquet and his family over "false allegations and a related attempt to blackmail the team" ahead of last week's Italian Grand Prix, but after Pat Symonds stonewalled an FIA investigation, and his statement was leaked to the press, the manufacturer was backed into a corner. By plea bargaining, it is likely Renault will escape harsh sentencing despite the fact that the actions of three of its employees put lives at risk and has damaged the sport's credibility.

Piquet has been offered immunity, but Briatore and Symonds — who is one of the most respected engineers in F1 — may face a lifetime ban from international motor sport.

In addition, Briatore, a colourful entrepreneur who has had relationships with Naomi Campbell and Heidi Klum, may face further humiliation. Briatore is part owner of football club Queens Park Rangers and may fall foul of the British Football League's "Fit and Proper Person's Test," which rules no one can be a director of a club if they are "subject to a ban from a sport's governing body."

Champions League Gunners come from behind

GEERT VANDEN WIJNGAERT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Belgium's Standard Liege player Dieu Mbokani, left, challenges Arsenal's Alexandre Song during Arsenal's 3-2 come-from-behind win yesterday in Champions League play in Liege, Belgium.

Lions release 3, add Bumpus and Williams

CFL The B.C. Lions signed wide receiver Michael Bumpus and defensive lineman Stephen Williams yesterday and released receiver Rufus Skillern, linebacker Terna Nande and defensive lineman Jonathan Williams.

Bumpus attended training camp with the Seattle Seahawks, for whom he played four games during the 2008 season. The Washington State grad caught five passes for 48 yards with one TD and also returned seven punts for an average of 9.4 yards.

Williams was released during the New England Patriots' final cut-downs earlier this month. The interior lineman was an undrafted free agent signing of the Kansas City Chiefs in 2006. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Spring trough cleaning done, now comes fall

HomeScape

I've been ignoring my eavestroughs for most of the summer, in spite of the nice man who came on several occasions and offered to clean them out.

But checking and cleaning out eavestroughs isn't usually high on anyone's agenda. Let's face it, eavestroughs are easy to ignore. And that's precisely what I did.

Now there are little trees and other plants growing up there. And when it rains, the eavestroughs don't work as intended. How can they? They're full of crud.

If you're like me, you may need a little reminder that you're in for trouble if you continue to ignore your eavestroughs. Water blockages in your trough and leaking water, if left unattended, can eventually cause a world of pain for homeowners. Things like a damp or flooded basement, roof damage, rotted or ruined siding, cracked and prematurely peeling paint and failed mortar joints could result. You'll be kicking yourself (and you deserve to be kicked) if you find yourself shelling out your hard-earned cash for these completely preventable types of repairs.

Eavestroughs should be cleaned or checked twice a year, preferably in the fall and in the late spring.

To clean, drag out the ladder, dig out the heavy rubber gloves, a brush and a bucket, and scoop out all the twigs, old seeds, the odd tennis ball and dirt that accumulates. And don't forget to use your garden hose to run water down the eavestrough and into the downspout to check for partial or full obstructions such as leaf debris, a wasp nest (!), or an old bird's nest.

Then check for standing water in the trough, and determine whether it is sag or inadequate sloping that is causing the problem. If the problem is sag, you may want to adjust, reseat or add gutter hangers. If the slope is inadequate, adjust the slope of the eavestrough to increase its pitch.

As the water runs, check for leaking joints and holes. When dry, seal leaky joints with silicone rubber caulking both inside and outside the seam. Patch small holes in metal troughs with roofing cement.

If you have larger holes, you may patch with a sheet metal patch and lots of roofing cement to "glue" the patch down and seal it.

Sylvia Putz is a journalist with an interest in decor and design. She's written for the TV show Arresting Design; sputz@arrestingdesign.com.

V6A suites offer flexible function in Chinatown

Suite Talk

A new development in the heart of Vancouver's Chinatown takes the combination of flexibility and function to a new level.

The Danish-inspired liner design of the V6A suites includes movable centre islands that create an additional 10 feet of work surface.

Buyers also have the option of having sliding walls to separate the sleeping and living spaces — a feature that balances privacy and openness.

Alex Orr, Onni's development manager, said the nine-storey residence is on the cutting edge of innovation.

"(The) kitchens boast an elegant angularity with full-sized appliances, plus one of the over-sized, undermount sinks that inevitably brings a smile of delight to every cooking enthusiast I know," Orr said.

He added the building's architecture was designed to enhance the existing streetscape.

Different coloured bricks are used on the façade, the penthouses have gleaming glass window walls and the covered balconies or rooftop patios prevent heat build up in the summer.

V6A also includes an evening concierge, an exercise room and bike lockers.

METRO VANCOUVER

Shots from V6A suites.

The lowdown

- V6A is located just steps from the Sun Yat-Sen Garden, Gastown and Chinatown's markets.
- More than 40 of the suites are priced under $299,900.
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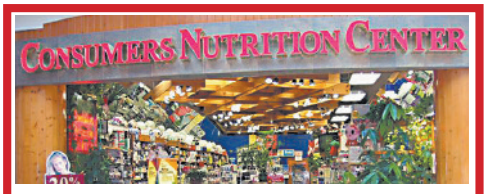

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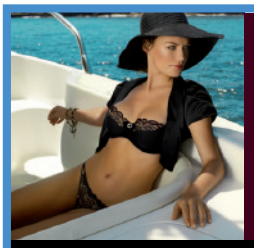

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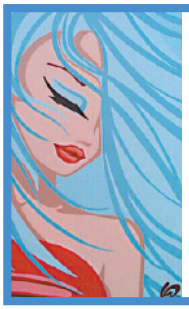

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Marc's colourful collection

The Marc by Marc Jacobs spring 2010 show in New York featured bright, sometimes clashing colours and crazy patterns. Even the menswear was a little out there: A red plaid trench coat was paired with blue vertical striped pants. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Style

The slash dress

With all its slashed material and bandaged dresses, New York Fashion Week could be mistaken for a haute hospital ward. The banded look was everywhere — at Herve Leger, of course, where it is the signature item — but also at Carolina Herrera (left) on Monday, Alexander Wang, Lela Rose, Nicole Miller and in Victoria Beckham's new collection. The look is form-fitting, but surprisingly forgiving. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

GOTTEX

VERA WANG

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

Though black was a dominant colour on New York Fashion Week runways, it was offset with various shades and rendered in feather-weight fabrics.

Black is back

NY runways went dark, but not gloomy

Fashion for spring is back in black. Black never went anywhere, of course — it's a perennial favourite with the crowd at New York Fashion Week. But for spring collections, the look wasn't terribly sunny.

The nod to the spring/summer season was to offset the black with white and shades of nude, blush and stone, all part of the overall muted look that has dominated at Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week.

Vera Wang

In her stark white SoHo store, Wang presented sophisticated styles that she said were influenced by the late Paul Poiret, who left an indelible stamp on fashion in the early 20th century. He gave women the freedom to wear looser chemise shapes, and Wang picked up on that: There wasn't a corset style in sight.

She mostly went for sultry instead of overtly sexy with layers of smoky-colored tulle, sheer black organza and artful, not flashy, embellished jewel details. Metallic pieces were a bit stiff, standing away from the body, while the bike shorts underneath the see-through styles hugged it.

Everything has been form-fitting in the spring collections

Betsey Johnson

Designer Betsey Johnson's signature item is the party dress, so on Tuesday evening she threw herself a party at the Plaza Hotel.

There was no runway for her spring collection, just pretty young things wearing upbeat, youthful clothes while dancing and singing to Blondie cover songs by the live band Ida Maria.

The models, up on a stage, were just a backdrop to Johnson, who hammed it up for cameras. Oh yeah, they were wearing strapless dresses in candy colours, a black sequin cocktail frock with a frilly skirt, a blue metallic skirt suit and some lingerie-inspired styles.

Gottex

Gottex presented a new interpretation of swimwear, with sequined one-pieces, plastic-looking bikinis and wide belts wrapped around the waist like the suits were superhero costumes.

There weren't too many "wearable" suits, unless you don't mind an off-the-shoulder bikini top with sleeves.

But perhaps what was most stunning were the coverups that were like elegant caftans; a red abstract print with drapey sleeves touched the runway, flowing behind the model as she walked.

Rodarte

The ravens rose at Rodarte. With a smoke-filled runway beneath them, models wore outfits resembling the contradictory symbol of darkness and survival.

Every garment seemed a cobweb of leather, yarn, ribbons, lace and cheesecloth. Some of the pieces were adorned with crystals, feathers and leather made to look like birdskin.

When stripped down without all the effect, some of the major trends of Fashion Week where here: draping, banding and lattice-like leather, among them.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Faux-leather, Reitmans ($24, reitmans.ca)

TROMPE L'OEIL T-SHIRT
Cotton, Jacob ($38, jacob.com)

BAND JACKET
Cotton, H&M ($50, hm.com)

ZIPPED BOOTIES
Faux leather, Spring ($70, myspring shoes.com)

A HIT OF RED

Crimson accents pack a pretty punch

Dive Master 500 Mecha watch Victorinox Swiss Army ($1,095, swissarmy.com)

Parallele pierced earrings, Swarovski ($140, swarovski.com)

Hat, H&M (17.95, hm.com)

SHAPE SHIFTER

Muffin tops, uni-boob and other fashion casualties caused by wearing too-tight body-slimming garments are jettisoned with Yummie Tummie, shapewear that merges style with function. Jennifer Lopez swore by the cotton tops and body-con dresses with strategically placed spandex-polyester panels to slim her post-baby silhouette. The latest offering includes the Sweetie top and the basic tank in new fall shades.

Sweetie top in Plum ($78 and $88, Yummie Tummie)

Kenya's Style

Kenya Hunt

Exclusively at metronews.ca/globalstyle

To read these stories and more, visit: **ellecanada.com**

Iron Man auction

Next spring's Iron Man 2 premiere will be memorable for two lucky fans. Oxfam Ambassador Scarlett Johansson is auctioning two movie premiere tickets, as well as a meet-and-greet with herself. The auction begins today at 10 p.m. ET at eBay.com/Oxfam. **PEOPLE.COM**

Entertainment

Chasing drama

Chace Crawford has shrugged off speculation he is dating Lindsay Lohan and his Gossip Girl co-star Taylor Momsen, dismissing the reports as attempts to "stir up drama."

FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Nelly goes Spanish

UNIVERSAL MUSIC

Nelly Furtado embraces her Latin roots on Spanish album Mi Plan.

MusicReviews

music@metronews.ca

Nelly Furtado

Album: Mi Plan
Label: Nelstar/Universal
Rating: ●●●●

THE MONSTER SUCCESS of Loose has given Nelly the confidence to do what she wants and pull it off with grace, style and sensuality (in other words, hot without the stripper pole sleaze). This time it's an album sung entirely in Spanish (a bit surprising since her native tongue is Portuguese). As on Loose, Nelly has conscripted a bevy of guest stars to join her. But instead of Justin Timberlake and Timbaland, the list includes Juan Luis Guerra, Alejandro Fernandes, Julieta Venegas, La Mala Rodríguez, Concha Buika and Canadian Latin guitar ace Alex Cuba. There's even a duet with classical crossover Josh Groban. Furtado artfully combines contemporary dance beats with more traditional Latin grooves. It's not far fetched to see a Spanish-language song taking over the North American charts. La Bamba anyone?

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Kid Cudi

Album: Man On The Moon: The End Of Day
Label: GOOD Music/Universal
Rating: ●●●●½

WHEN TAYLOR SWIFT'S BFF Kanye West released his breakup album 808s & Heartbreak, he inadvertently created a new musical subgenre: emo rap. So it makes sense that West's latest signee Kid Cudi would release an album in the same soul-searching vein. But while his debut contains more signing than rapping, it's a far more complex and rewarding listen than 808s. It's also 100 per cent auto-tune free. Cudi has a real knack for unusual song arrangements combined with candid lyricism and he's used those talents to create one of the most original hip-hop albums of the past few years.

Jason Richards/for Metro Canada

Drake

Album: So Far So Gone
Label: Cash Money/Universal
Rating: ●●●●

NO ONE COULD have expected that a former Degrassi actor would become one of North America's most talked about rappers, but that's exactly what's happened to Aubrey "Drake" Graham. His So Far So Gone mixtape was a huge hit thanks to the Kanye West-like club track Best I Ever Had. On his EP the budding songwriter showcases seven tracks off his earlier 17-song release. With a wildly infectious mélange of Jay-Z sounding rhymes, West-ish production and guest spots from Lil Wayne, it's a fantastic introduction to a rising star.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

Listen to this week's reviewed music at **metronews.ca/music**

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RECOMMENDED BY METRO READERS

Top 5 Hairdressers

Amber George, Verve Hair Lounge
"Creative, trendy, talented, professional... Awesome stylist and gorgeous salon."

Burke & Hair Inc.
"Melanie is great because she is professional, listens to her clients needs and performs wonders"

Taylor Smits
"Taylor is the head stylist at the Aveda Ego Salon on Granville St. in Vancouver. He's absolutely amazing."

Van, Super Hair Design
"She's amazing! She offers affordable, professional haircare"

Franco Federico
"Excellent hair cuts, great recommendations! He cuts women's too!"

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GREG GAYNE/FOX

Cyndi Lauper and David Boreanaz in a scene from the season premiere of Bones, which will air tonight on Fox. Lauper plays psychic Avalon Harmonia.

Lauper will kick off new season of Bones

Cyndi Lauper says she downplays a psychic she portrays on Thursday's season 5 premiere of Fox's Bones. That means no flamboyant fashions or clothing with a celestial theme.

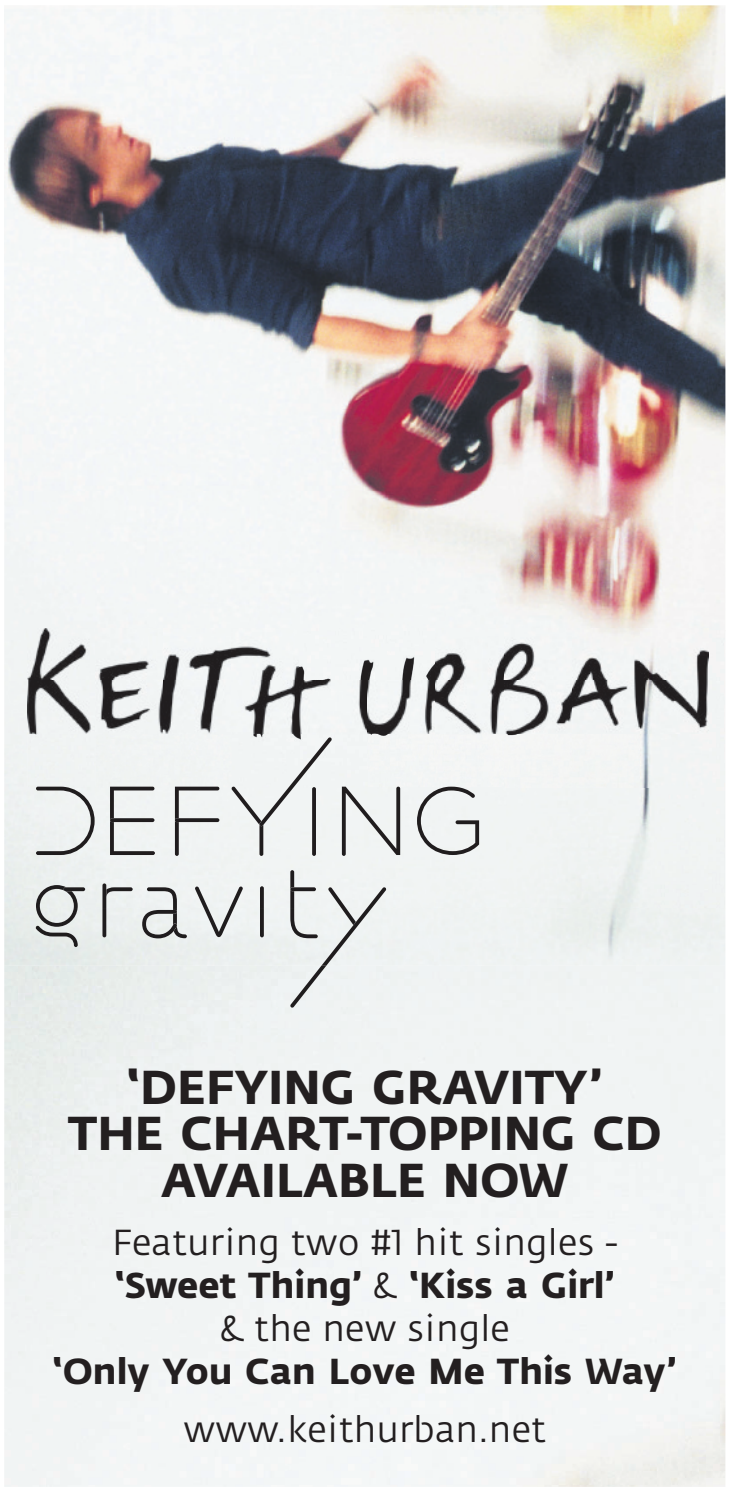
"I didn't think she should look like Rhoda from the '70s," jokes Lauper, referring to the TV character made famous by Valerie Harper. The singer and occasional actress plays Avalon Harmonia, a medium who leads stars Emily Deschanel and David Boreanaz to a crime scene and then becomes a suspect. "I can read tarot cards but I do it with an instruction manual," jokes Lauper.

The 56-year-old says she enjoyed working on the show because she's a fan of detective stories and enjoys picking up on a character's speech. "When I sing it's all about rhythm. In acting there's rhythm in the dialogue. Everyone has rhythm of speech and I like to find the rhythm of a character."

She may enjoy acting, but seeing herself on screen is another story. "No matter how I try to lose myself (in character) there I am," explains Lauper. Still, viewers may see more of her on the show in the future. Lauper says her story line is left open for a possible return.

Bones follows an FBI agent (Boreanaz) and a forensic anthropologist (Deschanel) who are paired up to solve crimes. The show airs tonight on Fox.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Jenna's expecting

Less than one month after revealing she "definitely" intends to become a mom-of-two, Jenna Elfman revealed that she is expecting her second child with husband Bodhi Elfman during an appearance CBS' The Early Show. PEOPLE.COM

Perez, music mogul?

With a record label and artists' tour underway, the celeb blogger is promoting music he likes

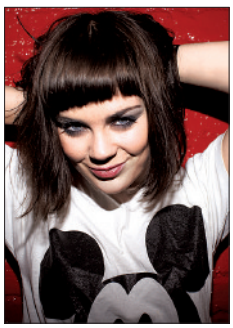
BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

Until recently Perez Hilton's musical adventures chiefly involved getting in fights with the Black Eyed Peas or championing Lady Gaga, but the famous blogger wants you to know he can do more than just write about his new favourite band.

"I'm crazy about music," he says. "It's my passion."

You wouldn't be the only wondering how music became more of a passion than trashing stars on his website. However, because Hilton enjoys the bands he likes as much as the Hollywood stars he hates, he's decided to start a label and promote a tour.

The Perez Hilton Presents Tour 2009 features Ida Maria, Ladyhawke and Semi Precious Weapons.. "People are going to walk away feeling that they've just been part of something cool," he says. "It's going to be experimental, but I don't want to say what will happen just yet."



Ida Maria is part of the Perez Hilton Presents Tour 2009.

While Maria will likely be a big draw — her debut disc Fortress Round My Heart broke the top 40 on the U.K. charts — it's Hilton's name that will bring in the most fans.

But, the gossip writer doesn't always elicit positive emotions — you either like him or hate him. He says whatever you think shouldn't matter. Go see the show because of the artists.

"Don't say I don't want to go because I don't want to support Perez," he says. "You're not supporting me, you're supporting the musicians. I'm not making money on this tour. I'm pouring it all into the acts, the production and things that we'll make this different."

Hilton's divisive reputation isn't a problem for Maria."I don't have any problems being associated with his fame," she says. "My music speaks for itself."

While his name didn't make her think twice about joining his tour, his lack of musical industry experience did.

Before she agreed to hit the road with him she had to find out if this was a joke or not. It didn't take long before she knew he was being serious. "I realized he had some of the best people in the country on board," she reveals. "When I saw that it was a solid plan it made it more attractive to me to do it."

For complete contest details go to http://www.sonymusic.ca/pitbull/hmv/rules

Jordan takes home Big Brother crown

TELEVISION Jordan Lloyd was served the $500,000 US grand prize on Big Brother 11. The goofy 22-year-old waitress from Matthews, N.C., bested Natalie Martinez, the scheming 24-year-old recent college graduate from Gilbert, Ariz., on the season finale of the CBS reality show.

Lloyd received five votes from the show's seven-member jury, which included viewer votes as the possibly tie-breaking seventh pick. Lloyd said she'll now "(put) a down payment on a house for me, my mom and my brother."

Cage wanted Hornet villain to be changed

FILM Nicolas Cage says he dropped out of The Green Hornet film because of creative differences with star and screenwriter Seth Rogen and director Michel Gondry. He had been in talks to play the lead villain opposite Rogen, who will portray the masked crime fighter.

But Cage says he "wasn't interested in just being just a straight-up bad guy who was killing people willy-nilly." He says Rogen and Gondry "had a different take on the character" and there wasn't enough time to develop the script.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 9/17/09	251	308	3 CBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Super Spellers (N) (CC)		Rise Up		CBC News: The National (N)		(:05) The Hour
	254	-	9 OMNI	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Omni News: Mandarin Edition		News: Cantonese Edition		Omni News: Punjabi Edition		The Simpsons
	250	321	9 CTV	etalk (CC)	Hollywood	The Vampire Diaries (N)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		(:01) The Mentalist (CC)		CTV News
	-	-	10 JOY	Frasier (CC)	The Insider	Stargate SG-1 (CC)		Supernatural (N) (CC)		Perspectives	Ek Noor	New Day
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Survivor: Samoa (CC)		The Office	SNL Update	90210 (N) (CC)		News
	256	389	12 VI	Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (CC)	So You Think You Can Dance		Fringe (Season Premiere) (N)		(:02) Private Practice (CC)		A News (N)
	253	359	13 CITY	Law & Order: SVU		30 Rock	Parks-Recreat	30 Rock	Community	The Jay Leno Show (N) (CC)		The CityNews
	-	-	14 CW	Deal-No Deal	Deal-No Deal	The Vampire Diaries (N)		Supernatural (N) (CC)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Survivor: Samoa (CC)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		(:01) The Mentalist (CC)		KIRO News
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	SNL Update	Parks-Recreat	The Office	Community	The Jay Leno Show (N) (CC)		KING 5 News
	602	568	19 W	Old Christine	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Grocery Bag	Confidential	Confidential	Divine Design	Divine Design	Love It-List It
	288	380	24 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Grey's Anatomy "Here's to Future Days; Now or Never"				(:02) Private Practice (CC)		KOMO 4 News
	-	-	28 KVOS	M*A*S*H	Seinfeld	Crusader (2004, Suspense) Andrew McCarthy, Michael York.				King	Cheers (CC)	Seinfeld
	291	383	27 PBS	Celtic Thunder -- Take Me Home (CC)				Soundstage "Josh Groban: Awake Live"			UltraMind Solution-Depress	
	290	382	23 FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Bones (Season Premiere) (N)		Fringe (Season Premiere)		Q13 FOX News at Ten (N)		Family Guy
	-	364	43 PBS	MI-5 "Persephone" (CC)		Red Green	Being Served	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		This Old Hse.	This Old Hse.
	296	654	34 SBK	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	Punk'd (CC)	South Park	South Park	Half & Half	Paid Program	Hatchett	Paid Program
	298	653	35 TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	The Vampire Diaries (N)		Supernatural (N) (CC)		KTLA Prime News (CC)		Friends (CC)
	295	651	36 WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	According-Jim	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	According-Jim
	297	652	37 WPX	PIX News at Ten Tong. (N)		Two/Half Men	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	According-Jim	Family Guy	South Park	Scrubs (CC)
	199	311	76 STR	CTV News	NTV Latenight News		Late Show-Letterman		Late Late Show		Will & Grace	Seinfeld
news	502	390	28 NW	The Nature of Things (CC)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National		The Nature of Things (CC)		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	NHL Preseason Hockey Vancouver Canucks at Anaheim Ducks. (Live)					MMA Conn	Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	SportsCentre (Live) (CC)			Off the Record	E:60 (N)		Hey Rookie, NFL		SportsCentre
	411	457	49 OLN	Ghost Hunters (CC)		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman (CC)		Ghost Hunters (CC)		Bounty Hunter
	410	403	54 SCR	College Football		Score Now		Score Now		Score Now		Final Score
	417	406	65 SC	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Pinks -- All Out		Jacked!	Jacked!	Wrecked
	416	409	144 GLF	Fútbol						Gol TV News	Gol TV News	Gol TV News
family	552	543	25 YTV	Drake & Josh	Family Biz (N)	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Rules	What I Like	Family Biz	Prank Patrol	Adrenaline
	555	545	50 TEL	Stoked (CC)	Total Drama	Majority Rules	6TEEN (N)	Futurama	King of Hill	Futurama: The Beast With a Billion Backs		
	557	541	51 FAM	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	553	546	53 TRE	Babar (CC)	Zigby	Max & Ruby	Dragon	Backyard	Ni Hao	Go, Diego, Go!	Franklin	Comfy Couch
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Frontiers of Construction		Africa "Southern Treasures"		Adventures in Architecture		War Photographer ★★★ (2002) (CC)		
	575	583	20 CMT	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Karaoke Star "Kitchener"		Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Imp.
	570	580	42 MM	MTV Video Music Awards		One Tree Hill (CC)		So You Think You Can Dance Canada Top 16. (CC)				Dance
	600	564	29 H&G	House	House	Holmes on Homes (CC)		Disaster DIY	Big Amazing	Handyman Superstar		House
	615	520	31 A&E	The First 48 (CC)		Crime 360 "Full House" (N)		The First 48 (CC)		The First 48 (CC)		The First 48
	628	584	62 SPKE	(6:00) TNA Wrestling (N)		The Ultimate Fighter		GTTV-Halo 3	GameTrailers	UFC 103 Countdown: Franklin		MXC
	521	560	32 TLC	LA Ink "Blonde Ambition" (N)		Police Women of Broward		LA Ink "Blonde Ambition"		Police Women of Broward		LA Ink (CC)
	616	522	33 SHO	The Outer Limits "New Life"		Da Vinci's City Hall		The Best Years		Bones (CC)		NCIS "Caged"
	620	523	40 BVO	(5:30) Water ★★★ (2005)		Law & Order (CC)		Without a Trace "Last Call"		Judy Berlin ★★ (1999) Barbara Barrie. (CC)		
	601	562	41 SLC	X-Weighted (CC)		ET Canada	What	Biggest Loser Australia (CC)		Average Joe: Hawaii (CC)		Trading Sp
	520	505	42 DIS	MythBusters "Curving Bullets"		Daily Planet (CC)		Are We Alone?				MythBusters
	522	506	44 HIS	Ice Road Truckers		Ancient Discoveries		Underworld Histories (CC)		Life After People (N)		Blow Down
	627	528	45 SPC	(6:00) Logan's Run ★★ (1976) Michael York.			Stargate SG-1 "Bad Guys"		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Star Trek: Voyager (CC)	
	294	650	47 TBS	Just Friends ★★ (2005) Ryan Reynolds, Amy Smart.				Sex and-City	Sex and-City	(:10) Sister Act ★★ (1992) Whoopi Goldberg.		
	619	525	48 TROP	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	The Outer Limits "Descent"		ET Canada	TV Made	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld
	603	561	52 FN	Ace of Cakes	Ace of Cakes	Family	Family	Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Perfection	Perfection	Ace of Cakes
	-	-	53 AMC	(5:00) Dances With Wolves ★★★★ (1990) Kevin Costner.				The Hi-Lo Country ★★ (1998, Western) Woody Harrelson, Billy Crudup. (CC)				
	626	547	57 COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Comedy Now Paul Myrehaug.		Daily Show
	320	621	60 CEN	(6:15) Boot Camp (2007) (CC)		The Reader ★★★ (2008) Kate Winslet, Ralph Fiennes. (CC)				(:05) The Kite Runner ★★ (2007, Drama) (CC)		
	581	566	101 MTV	Nitro Circus	Pranked (N)	MTV Live	After	Fantasy Fact.	Beatdown	Nitro Circus	Pranked	MTV Live
	261	394	102 V	(6:00) Gentleman's Agreement ★★★★			Recreat. Eden	A Family Thing ★★ (1996, Drama) Robert Duvall. (CC)				Paid Program
	-	-	105 MUL	Banquet	Kingdom-Wind	Vancouver	Shaktimaan	Dheeyan Ghar	Sadabahar	Connections	Desi Rhythms	Patrol World

critics'corner

Fringe

This frequently befuddling yet maddeningly addictive brain-tickler, which got off to a rocky start but built to a mind-boggling season one finale involving — um, we think — parallel universes, returns for a sophomore season in which we'll learn more about the terrorist cell Z.F.T., and Olivia (Anna Torv) pursues more information about her own forgotten past. Also: more weird science! 9 PM on FOX

Survivor: Samoa

As is customary, at this writing CBS was keeping details on the 19th edition of its hit reality series tightly under wraps, apart from the fact that it features 18 strangers trying to outwit, outlast and outplay one another on a South Pacific island the network describes as being "straight from Robert Louis Stevenson's tale 'Treasure Island.' " Hmmm. Not Rodgers & Hammerstein's "South Pacific"? Because that would seem like a no-brainer. 5 PM on STR

The 5th Annual Chef Meets Grape is Back!
Tonight at 7 p.m., join 15 restaurants and 42 local wineries at The Westin Bayshore Hotel for the annual local food and wine pairing extravaganza. Chefs will create dishes using B.C. ingredients to match VQA wines. Tickets $75, in support of the Ocean Wise program. Visit winebc.com for more info.

Urban Foodie

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Diamond a little rough around edges

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Signature Drink:
Isadora
Signature Dish:
Pork gyoza
Rating: ●●●
Dinner & drinks for 2: $60

When you hear that three of the city's top bartenders are opening their own digs in Gastown, the obvious reaction is to begin salivating — and abstaining — in preparation for the inevitable lush-fest to come.

When you hear that they are pairing their cocktail menu with Asian-style tapas, however, you may pause and mull, before approaching with caution. And with good reason.

Located on the second floor of a heritage building, The Diamond is a nicely-renovated room of large, bright, sash windows, custom wallpaper and numerous leafy pots to break up the space.

On the web
- Read the full article online at metronews.ca/vancouver/columnist/40411.
- Chew more on Anya's blog at metronews.ca/vancouver/blog/136310.

Simple items like edamame and peanuts are expected, but a Peking duck-and-chicken sub ($8), while tasty, was too messy to go with our sophisticated cocktails, and splattered and dripped all over the table.

An avocado-grapefruit salad ($4) with prawns ($3) was dressed in an excellent-quality olive oil — almost to the point of drowning — but was noticeably short on grapefruit. The prawns were slightly overcooked.

Pork gyoza with fresh green onions ($5) were much more successful and actually meshed with our second round of drinks. Two soups, duck and soba noodle ($10) and lemongrass glass noodle ($8) were both very pleasant.

ANYA LEVYKH/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Avocado-grapefruit salad with prawns.

On the web

Global Peasant:
- Travel along with Diane Thompson's culinary adventures in her Global Peasant blog. Visit metronews.ca/globalpeasant for this Panzanella.

Finca Flichman Cabernet Sauvignon

Mendoza, Argentina is known for its Malbec production, but other varietals flourish here as well. Take Finca Flichman's 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon. This ruby-red quaff starts with berries and spice on the tongue, and finishes with some hints of vanilla. Aged three months in oak before being transferred to the bottle, this is a great wine to pair with warm stews, grilled steaks or that terrine you've been wanting to try. $11.99 at BCLS.

Dining out

MOON FESTIVAL MENUS
From Oct. 3-9, in keeping with the annual Chinese Moon Festival, Wild Rice (117 West Pender St) will be offering a special three-course moon festival menu for $35. Menu includes pumpkin and butternut squash soup, braised pork belly and steamed bun with lychee coconut ice cream. Call 604-642-2882.

RIEDEL AT CRU
On Oct. 4, Cru Restaurant (1459 West Broadway) will be offering a Riedel glass tasting (and a glassware set to take home — retail value $148) as part of a five-course dinner that will include the wines of Mission Hill Family Estate. Tickets are $150, and include glassware, dinner and wine. Call 604-677-4111.

In brief

TAGGED FOOD C Restaurant is now serving the first-ever tagged B.C. lingcod from local fisheries as part of their ongoing commitment to seafood sustainability. The tags allow chefs to identify the exact fishery the lingcod came from, as well as the exact fisherman and boat where it was caught.

ANYA LEVYKH
/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Urban Eats

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Located dockside in the Granville Island Hotel, the Dockside Restaurant offers great food and fantastic city, water, and mountain views.

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Urban Eats runs Thursdays in Metro.

Swayze gets Dancing send-off
Dancing with the Stars will honour Patrick Swayze on Wednesday's live results show. The late actor appeared on the show in its early years, people.com reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Kristin debunks rumours

SETTING THINGS STRAIGHT Like singer John Mayer, reality TV star Kristin Cavallari says she was amused by rumours the two had hooked up. "I literally met John one time for five minutes," she told usmagazine.com yesterday. "I am single, I'll tell you that. I'm 22. Why have a boyfriend? I'm having fun."

There is one rumour that's true: She and Hills co-star Audrina Patridge don't get along. "We literally just don't see each other," she told Us. "I don't have a problem with her. If she has a problem with me, that's a whole other story." Still, Cavallari has no regrets about her reality TV career. "It's been such a great experience for me and brought me so many opportunities," she told Us. METRO WORLD NEWS

Good news and bad news for Jude

TRADING ONE PROBLEM FOR ANOTHER Jude Law has been cleared of allegations he assaulted a female photographer after officials in the U.K. ruled no action will be taken against him, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The star allegedly hit the photographer as he tried to get to his car after leaving a London nightclub in July. He was accused of striking Harsha Gopal on the head and slapping her face as she tried to take his picture, but he denied the accusations. His lawyer said the claims were "nonsense."

Law was adamant camera flashes had blinded him, and as he held his arm out he accidentally struck someone before apologizing and leaving the scene. In a statement, a spokesman for the crown prosecution service said, "A careful analysis of the specific evidence in this case, which included photographs and eyewitness statements, indicates that Mr. Law had no intention to assault anyone."

It has also been learned Law's baby with model Samantha Burke is due Oct. 6, the same day he debuts on Broadway in Hamlet.

Burke is reportedly looking to upstage the actor, as she's reportedly been shopping around an exclusive interview about their relationship and pictures of newborn, to be named Sophia.

"Samantha is getting offers ranging up to $200,000 (US)," a source told Page Six. "While Jude has promised to provide for Sophia, Samantha doesn't feel like his behaviour towards her was entirely chivalrous." METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity tweets

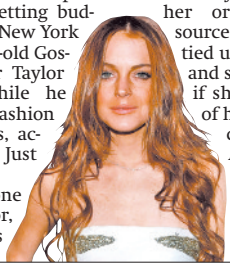
Serena Williams attempts to make amends for her U.S. Open outburst, Tila Tequila uses her Twitter followers as an alarm clock, and Ben Stiller can't quite figure out how to use Twitter.

- @serenajwilliams I want to sincerely apologize FIRST to the lineswoman, Kim Clijsters, USTA & mostly tennis fans everywhere. Thank you all for your support
- @officialTila Ok don't forget. 9am wake up call please! Just tweet me...I'll hear it! LOL...nite nite! *drinks chocolate milk* xoxox
- @RedHourBen I keep Direct Messaging the world. Let's all have a meeting. Someday I will figure this out. METRO WORLD NEWS

LiLo corrupts the young?

THINK OF THE KIDS! Lindsay Lohan seems to be pulling double duty when it comes to corrupting the young. The actress was spotted this week getting buddy-buddy in New York with 16-year-old Gossip Girl star Taylor Momsen while he hit various Fashion Week events, according to Just Jared.

Only one week prior, Lohan was letting 15-year-old sister Ali Lohan tag along to bars and clubs around L.A., Life & Style magazine alleges. "Lindsay didn't coddle her or anything," a source said. "They partied until after 1 a.m., and she treated Ali as if she were just one of her friends at the club with her. And Ali was excited to be there." METRO WORLD NEWS



Sean rebounds with model

SECOND CHANCE AT LOVE His divorce from Robin Wright Penn may not be finalized, but Sean Penn already appears to be moving on.

The actor has been spotted around New York with Sports Illustrated swimsuit model Jessica White, according to People. "They were holding hands" at an intimate dinner, said a source. "They seemed really into each other. She was laying on him. She was laying on his shoulder. He seemed really into her."

The pair reportedly met at a party at Kid Rock's house.

"They are pretty serious together. She wants to get serious with him and it seems like he is really into her, too," the source added. METRO WORLD NEWS

Church opposes Elton's plan

ANOTHER ROADBLOCK At least one organization is happy that Ukrainian law prohibits singer Elton John and his partner, David Furnish, from adopting a 14-month-old boy they met at an orphanage recently.

"Thank God it's impossible under Ukrainian law for Elton John to adopt a child," Ukraine Orthodox Church spokesman Father Georgy Gulyaev said, according to the Daily Mail. "The church will never agree that people who have created same-sex marriage could also dare to adopt children. This applies to all, including Elton John. He is a sinner." METRO WORLD NEWS

Megan the murderer?

WATCH OUT FOR THIS ONE Megan Fox is the first to admit she's dangerous — and that boyfriend Brian Austin Green might want to worry about his safety.

"My temper is ridiculously bad," Fox confessed to Rolling Stone magazine. "I've had to say to Brian, 'You have to go and stop talking to me, because I'm going to kill you. I'm going to stab you with something, please leave.'"

And it's because of that temper that Fox isn't armed, she says. "I'd never own a gun for that reason ... I wouldn't shoot to kill. But I would shoot him in the leg, for sure." METRO WORLD NEWS

Missing: Jessica's dog last seen in coyote's jaws

DOGGONE SHAME Jessica Simpson is holding out hope that her beloved dog, Daisy, is still OK despite being carried off by a wild animal. "My heart is broken because a coyote took my precious Daisy right in front of our eyes," Simpson tweeted. "We are searching. Hoping. Please help."

Simpson uploaded a missing poster for the pooch, which she received as a gift from then-husband Nick Lachey in 2004. METRO WORLD NEWS

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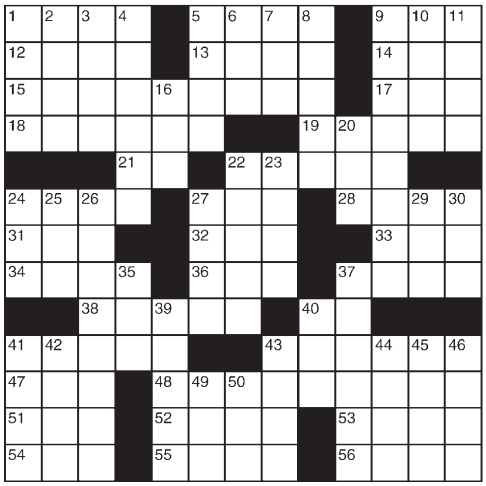


Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

			2			4		
7	5						9	
		8			1		2	
	2	7	1	4			6	
3								4
	1			5	9	3	7	
	9		5			2		
	8						4	7
		1			6			

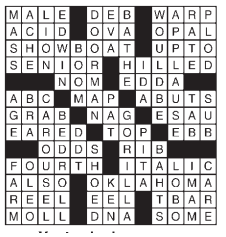
ACROSS

1 Emulated Michael Phelps
5 Goya's "Duchess of —"
9 URL bit
12 Incite
13 Fly high
14 Sapporo sash
15 26-Down attendee
17 Tear
18 "The Usual Suspects" actor
19 Identifies
21 Fire
22 Memorable mission
24 Feedbag fill
27 Carte lead-in
28 Former larva
31 "A pox upon thee!"
32 Beleaguered spacecraft
33 Turf
34 Envelope feature
36 "Bleah!"
37 "F' heaven's sake!"
38 Sign of life
40 "— what?"
41 Form
43 Opening remark?
47 The girl
48 26-Down attendee
51 Illustrations
52 Reed instrument
53 Protracted
54 Possibly will
55 Require
56 Ostriches' kin

DOWN

1 Addition problems
2 Enclose
3 City of India
4 Groups' havens
5 Wan
6 Mauna —
7 Tavern
8 Action venue
9 26-Down attendee
10 Theater trophy
11 Gratuities
16 Whammy
20 Pump up the volume
22 26-Down attendee
23 Caprice
24 Askew
25 Have a bug
26 Wonderland event
27 Writer Kingsley
29 "The Raven" man
30 Woodworking tool
35 Young dog
37 Nudge
39 Dealership dud
40 Vast expanse
41 Counterfeit
42 Wife of Zeus
43 Molt
44 Teensy bit
45 Waiter's handout
46 Work measures
49 Honest politician
50 Anonymous John

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



1	6	7	4	5	3	9	8	2
3	2	8	9	6	7	4	1	5
4	5	9	2	1	8	7	3	6
8	9	2	5	3	6	1	4	7
7	4	5	8	2	1	6	9	3
6	1	3	7	9	4	5	2	8
9	7	4	3	8	5	2	6	1
2	8	1	6	7	9	3	5	4
5	3	6	1	4	2	8	7	9

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

Chili Chicken, Corn & Pasta

Submitted by Jackie Hayward, Fort St. John, B.C.

INGREDIENTS:

6 oz.pkg of Angel hair pasta
3 fresh ears of sweet corn
1/4 cup of cooking oil
4 small skinless boneless chicken breasts,
1-1/2 tsp. chili powder
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
2 medium tomatoes, sliced
3 Tbsp. lemon juice
Snipped fresh parsley if desire

METHOD:

1. Cook pasta and corn ears in salted boiling water about 8 minutes or until tender. Drain and rinse with cold water.
2. Mix 1-teaspoon chili powder, salt and pepper in a bowl and then sprinkle the mix over each chicken breast.
3. In a large skillet cook chicken in 1-tablespoon hot oil over medium heat for 8 to 10 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink, turning once.
4. While chicken is cooking, cut the sweet corn kernels from the cobs.
5. Combine the remaining oil and chili powder along with the lemon juice in a jar.
6. Mix the chicken, corn, tomatoes and pasta and serve onto 4 plates.
7. Drizzle with the prepared dressing and sprinkle lightly with salt and pepper.
8. Serve with a sprig of parsley.

SERVES 4
PREP TIME: 10 MINUTES
COOK TIME: 10MINUTES

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Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Walk away from people who are always talking you down. It does not matter that you feel you owe them in some way, it matters only that you liberate yourself.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Don't try to hide your feelings because you won't succeed. Instead, speak up and let others know exactly what you think and why.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Work and health issues need to be dealt with today. Think seriously about how you are using your time and your energy.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
There will be some major changes in your everyday environment over the next few weeks and no matter how much you prepare yourself.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
Whatever changes you are thinking of making you are advised to wait until the Sun changes signs on the 22nd.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
You may be tempted to invest in something you don't know much about but when you start thinking like that you are likely to make a costly mistake.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
You will send out very strong signals today and those signals will attract people who, to put it mildly, are out of the ordinary.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
This is a good time for you and it will get even better over the next few weeks, so save some energy for what is to come.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Make an effort to understand the thought processes of people whose ideas and opinions you don't agree with.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Do you follow a path that has been laid out for you by others? Or do you follow a path that you personally believe in? That is what you need to decide.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
The Sun's change of signs on the 22nd will encourage you to speak up about things you believe in and stir up the kind debate that is needed.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
There are some major changes on your cosmic horizon, and each and every one of them will work in ways that make your life rich and rewarding.

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